

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended and claims 18 and 19 are added. No new matter is added by this Amendment. Support for the amendment to claim 1 is found at, for example, Fig. 1. Support for claim 18 is found at, for example, paragraph [0154] of the specification. Support for claim 19 is found at, for example, Fig. 1.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that claims 2, 3, 5, 8, 10, 13 and 16 contain allowable subject matter.

II. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and §103(a)

Claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 9, 14, 15 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,726,796 (Regener); and claims 11 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Regener. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The Office Action asserts that Regener discloses "a fiber optic transceiver module comprising a block (1, 36) including an optical waveguide (21, 33, 19, 23, 17, 16), an optical element with a light emitting or receiving surface (where fiber 10 abuts with branch 7 of the waveguide) attached to the block, the optical element being a light emitting device or a light receiving device 10, the light emitting or receiving surface being disposed so as to face the other end of the optical waveguide (where the end of branch 7 abuts optical fiber receiving element 10)".

However, Regener fails to disclose: (1) an optical element with a light emitting or receiving surface attached to an outside surface of the block, as recited in claim 1; (2) an optical element with a light emitting or receiving surface attached on the block by an adhesive, as recited in claim 18; and (3) one end of the optical waveguide being exposed to a bottom of the guide and an other end of the optical waveguide being exposed on a side face of

the block, the optical element being a light emitting device or a light receiving device, the light emitting or receiving surface being disposed on a position of the side face of the block where the other end of the optical waveguide is exposed, as recited in claim 19.

For the foregoing reason, Regener fails to anticipate or render obvious the subject matter of claims 1, 18 and 19, as well as the claims depending therefrom.

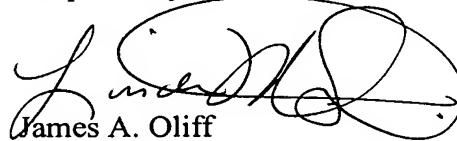
Withdrawal of the rejections is requested.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the pending claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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